	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	09/840,827	CHRISTENSEN ET AL.
	Examiner	**Art Unit**	
	Clara Yang	2635	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *9 August 2004*.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-10 and 13-19*.

3. ☒ The drawings filed on *25 April 2001* are accepted by the Examiner.

4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some*   c) ☐ None   of the:

        1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the

            International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * Certified copies not received: _____ .

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

    (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

        1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of

        Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

    Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 08/06/04

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ .

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____ .

<div align="center">**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**</div>

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or

additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR

1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with

Joe McKinney Muncy (Reg. No. 32,334) on 3 November 2004.

Claims 1, 14, and 16 – 19 have been amended as follows:

1.   (Currently Amended) An automation system for controlling and monitoring a

plurality of devices using controllers, the automation system comprising:

a plurality of devices, each comprising:

a receiver for receiving signals,

a transmitter for transmitting signals,

a first memory holding a device identifier identifying the device,

a processor for controlling the reception and transmission of signals, and

means for providing an output to, or receiving an input from, an

appliance connected to the device in response to a received signal,

a first controller comprising:

a radio frequency transmitter for transmitting signals,

a radio frequency receiver for receiving signals,

a first memory comprising an organized data structure holding device

identifiers of devices controlled by the first controller and routing data

relating to, for each device controlled by the first controller, other devices which can receive and process signals transmitted by the device,

a second memory holding a controller identifier identifying the first controller, and

a processor for controlling the reception and transmission of signals and being adapted to store and read device identifiers in the first memory, the processor comprising means for generating a signal addressed to one or more devices and comprising instructions related to the operation of the appliance connected to the device,

a second controller comprising:

a radio frequency transmitter for transmitting signals,

a radio frequency receiver for receiving signals,

a first memory comprising an organized data structure, corresponding to the organized data structure of the first memory of the first controller, for holding at least device identifiers of devices controlled by the second controller,

a second memory for holding a controller identifier identifying the second controller, and

a processor for administering the reception and transmission of signals and being adapted to store and read at least device identifiers in the first memory, the processor comprising means for generating a signal addressed to one or more devices and comprising instructions related to the operation of the appliance connected to the device,

wherein the processor the first controller further comprises means for generating one or more signals comprising device identifiers and routing data from organized data structure of the first memory of the first controller, and

wherein the processor of the second controller has a first, normal mode of operation in which it is adapted to transmit signals to, and receive signals from, devices controlled by the second controller, and a second mode of operation in which it is adapted to receive said one or more signals from the first controller and store said device identifiers and routing data correspondingly in the organized data structure controller of the first memory the second controller.

14.   (Currently Amended) An automation system according to claim 12 13, wherein the means for generating signal comprises means for generating a signal holding an indication of the current identifier in said predetermined sequence of device identifiers, and the processor of the second controller is further adapted to receive said signal and store said indication so as to allow the processor of the second controller to assign the device identifier which is next in sequence to the last device identifier assigned by the first controller, to a device.

16.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 14 15, wherein the second controller comprises a processor having a first, normal mode of operation wherein it is adapted to transmit signals to, and receive signals from, devices controlled by the second controller, and a second mode of operation wherein it is adapted receive said one or more signals from the first controller and store said device identifiers correspondingly in the organized data structure of the memory of the second controller,

the method further comprising the step of setting the processor of the second controller in its second mode of operation.

17.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~14~~ 15, wherein the step of storing said device identifiers correspondingly in the organized data structure of the memory of the second controller comprises the step of overwriting corresponding device identifiers already stored in the memory of the second controller.

18.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~14~~ 15, characterized in that it makes the second controller a replication of the first controller in terms of controlling the devices of the system, the method further comprising the step of, before storing said device identifiers in the memory of second controller, erasing all information related to device identifiers in the memory the second controller.

19.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~14~~ 15, characterized in that it makes the second controller a replication of the first controller in terms of controlling the devices of the system and in terms of set-up and learning of the system, wherein the signal further comprises instructions related the set-up and learning of the system.

Drawings

2.   The replacement drawings were received on 9 August 2004. These drawings are accepted.

BRIAN ZIMMERMAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER